

*Washington, D.C. (February 14, 2013) – Rep. Jan Schakowsky (D-IL) released the following statement in response to the Illinois Senate's passage of SB 10, the Religious Freedom and Marriage Fairness Act, which legalizes gay marriage.*

"I was overjoyed to see the Illinois State Senate pass the Religious Freedom and Marriage Fairness Act this afternoon. I hope it moves quickly through the Illinois House of Representatives and is signed into law. I also hope that the United States Congress follows suit, passing the Respect for Marriage Act and addressing this same issue nationally.

"The Illinois Senate's action today is an important step towards recognizing that relationships between same-sex individuals are as meaningful as any other, and deserve equal treatment under the law. Its passage on Valentine's Day is particularly fitting, because it gives couples all over the state yet another reason to celebrate."

###